

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

Division of Water Pollution Control  
7th Floor, L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

**TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:** The application described below has been submitted for an Aquatic Resource Alteration Permit under *The Tennessee Water Quality Control Act of 1977*, T.C.A. §69-3-108. In addition, federal permits may be required from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Tennessee Valley Authority under §404 of the *Clean Water Act* and §26a of the *Tennessee Valley Authority Act*, respectively. Section 401 of the *Clean Water Act* requires that an applicant obtain a water quality certification from the state when a federal permit is required. This notice may cover applications subject to §401.

No decision has been made whether to issue or deny this permit. The purpose of this notice is to inform interested parties of this permit application and to ask for comments and information necessary to determine possible impacts to water quality. Persons wishing to comment on the proposal are invited to submit written comments to the department. Written comments must be received within **thirty days of the date that this notice is posted**. Comments will become part of the record and will be considered in the final decision. The applicant's name and permit number should be referenced.

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available for review and/or copying at the department's natural resources section.

Interested persons may also request in writing that the department hold a public hearing on this application. The request must be filed within the comment period, indicate the interest of the person requesting it, the reasons that the hearing is warranted, and the water quality issues being raised. When there is sufficient public interest in water quality issues, the department shall hold a public hearing in accordance with Rule 1200-4-7-.04(4)(f).

In deciding whether to issue or deny a permit, the department will consider all comments of record and the requirements of applicable federal and state laws. In making this decision, a determination will be made regarding the lost value of the resource compared to the value of any proposed mitigation. The department shall consider practicable alternatives to the alteration. The department shall also consider loss of waters or habitat, diminishment in biological diversity, cumulative or secondary impacts to the water resource, and adverse impact to unique, high quality, or impaired waters.

**PERMIT APPLICATION NUMBER:** NRS 08.016

**APPLICANT:** State of Tennessee  
Department of Transportation  
Environmental Division  
Suite 900, J. K. Polk Bldg.  
505 Deaderick Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-0334  
615-253-2477

**LOCATION:** State Route 15 from Hardin County to Near Mill Springs Branch, Wayne County  
(lat35.3056/long87.8971)

**USGS TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLE:** Eagle Creek, TN (33-SW)

**WATERSHED DESCRIPTION:** The proposed impacts would affect Keeton Hollow Creek, Hardin Creek, Mosier Branch, Bloody Branch, Mill Spring Creek and unnamed tributaries to Flat Gap Creek in western Wayne County at the Hardin County line. Most streams impacted by this project are 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> order headwater tributaries sourced by springs in small, steep valley slopes flowing through low (2' – 4') deep gravel/cobble channels ~3-6 feet wide. Hardin Creek typifies the receiving streams varying in depth up to 4-6 ft. and 25+/- ft. wide flowing over a cobble/gravel substrate and a thin (5%) canopy of mature hardwoods. The land use in the area is rural/agricultural. Department records indicate that in 2001 USGS

RBPIII at Hardin Creek mile 13.9 near Clifton Junction, 19 EPT genera and 54 total genera were found. The stream passed biocriteria in a 1999 TDEC biorecon at mile 13.9 (Hwy 64/SR15) when 10 EPT families, 26 total were found. Bloody Branch was assessed in a 2000 TDEC (Mining Section) survey at Highway 64 when 8 EPT genera, 29 total genera (Habitat score = 131) was found.

**PROJECT DESCRIPTION:** The project would involve the construction of a State Route 15 from the Hardin County line to near Mill Springs Branch. Station 18+75+/- Unnamed tributary, TDOT proposes to replace 55 ft. of existing structure and 175 ft. of open channel with 166 ft. of 10 ft. X 5 ft. box culvert with 38 ft. of transition at the inlet and 40 ft. of transition at the outlet. From Station 20+80+/- (Lt) to Sta. 52+00+/- (Rt.) unnamed tributary to Flat Gap Creek, relocation of 2850 ft. and 91 ft of structure (2941 ft total) into 2931 ft. of open channel 14 ft. of 18" side drain and 210 ft. of 48" pipe (sta. 51+18) (total 3155+/- ft). At Station 102+70 Keeton Hollow Creek, existing 427 ft. of open channel and 70 ft. of structure (total 507') would be replaced with 336 ft. of 2 @ 10ft. X 10 ft. box culvert with 33 ft. of riprap transition at the outlet (total 369 ft). Associated with this site is the permanent impact (filling) of 0.125 acre of wetlands. Station 123+83.75 Hardin Creek, install dual 3-span concrete bridge. Station 140+25 unnamed tributary to Hardin Creek, replace existing 222ft. of open channel and 70 ft. of structure (292 ft total) with 176 ft. of 10 ft. X 7 ft. box culvert with 10 ft of transition at the inlet and 98 ft of open stream at the outlet (total 284 ft.). Station 145+63.16 (Lt.) unnamed tributary to Hardin Creek, installation of 70 ft. of 18" RCP. Station 170+65 Farris Hollow, replace existing 201 ft. of open stream and 55 ft. of structure with 166 ft. of 2 @ 10 ft. X 4 ft. box culvert with 80 ft. of transition at the outlet. Station 192+50 Shipman Hollow, install 171 ft. of 2 @ 10 ft. X 4 ft. box culvert. Station 199+60 Unnamed tributary, install 166 ft. of 12 ft. X 6ft. box culvert. Station 212+30 Butler Hollow, the existing 234 ft. of open channel and 58 ft of structure (292 ft.) would be impacted by extending the inlet of the 10 ft X 5 ft. box by 89 ft. and the outlet by 124 ft. with 43 ft. of transition at the outlet (314 ft. total). Station 220+41 Mosier Branch, north and south bound lanes would have a combined 150 ft. of 3 @ 12 ft. X 6 ft. box culvert. Station 268+10 Haggard Hollow, 166 ft. of 8 ft. X 6ft. box culvert. Station 276+97 unnamed tributary to Hardin Creek, replace existing 221 ft. of open stream and 63 ft. of structure (284ft. total) with 187 ft. of 8 ft. X 6 ft. box culvert with 61 ft. of transition at the outlet (248 ft total). Station 288+00 Bloody Branch, replace existing 424 ft. of open channel and 55 ft. of structure (total 297 ft.) with 188 ft. of 3 @ 15 ft. X 10 ft. box culvert with 116 ft. of transition at the inlet (including riprap stabilization) (305 ft total). Station 310+05 unnamed tributary to Hardin Creek, replace existing 194 ft. of open stream and 55 ft. of structure (249 ft total) with 159 ft. of 10 ft. X 6 ft. box culvert with 80 ft. of transition at the inlet (total 239 ft.). Station 317+45+/- to Sta. 320+28.25 unnamed tributary to Hardin Creek, replace existing 401 ft. of open stream and 40 ft. of structure (total 441 ft) with 167 ft. of 6 ft. X 4 ft box culvert and 37 ft. of 6 ft. X 4 ft. box culvert and 312 ft. of open stream channel.

The new channels would be designed to match original substrate and involve tree planting to replace riparian vegetation. Permanent wetland impacts (0.696 acre) would be mitigated by debiting, at a 4:1 ratio, 2.78 acres of available credit from the Coffee County Wetland Mitigation Bank. Impacts to 1232 ft. of streams would be mitigated by payment of \$246,400.00 to the Tennessee Stream Mitigation Program. Additional proposed impacts on this project would qualify for General ARAP Permits.

More details on the proposal can be viewed on the Internet at <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/wpc/ppo/arap>.

**PERMIT COORDINATOR:** Brian Canada

The permit application, supporting documentation including detailed plans and maps, and related comments are available at the department's address for review and/or copying. The department's address is:

Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation  
Division of Water Pollution Control, Natural Resources Section  
7th Floor L & C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243











